(c) if so, whether Government propose to adopt these technologies which are cheaper and efficient?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI L. PRABHU): (a) and (c) Government has seen such press reports but does not agree with the same. The gas-based fertilizer projects in India cost somewhat higher than similar plants elsewhere in the World because of the following factors--

(i) The projects are located in the backward/undeveloped areas, very remote from the port, which necessitates considerable expenditure on infrastructure development and transportation cost of equipment;

(ii) The indigenous equipment costs are somewhat higher than imported ones, because of present recession in the World Capital Goods Industry;

(iii) The inventory level of spare parts has to be necessarily higher because of longlead required to procure them from foreign sources;

(iv) Higher incidence of local taxes, duties and interest rates;

(v) Fluctuation in the parity rates of exchange;

(vi) Higher costs of steel and cement.

For choosing the technology for the gas-based plants bids were received from all the pre-qualified international engineering consultants. Selection of Snamprogetti for urea technology and of Haldor Topsee and M.W. Kellogg for ammonia technology was made on the basis of technical suitability and the lowest evaluated bids.

(b) Gujarat State Fertilizers Company has yet to evaluate the offers and approach the Government for approval of the foreign collaboration agreement.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Papers to be Laid on the Table.

I. Report and Accounts (1986-87) of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi and related papers.

II. Statement giving reasons for not laying the Audited Accounts (1986-87) of the Press Council of India within the stipulated period.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

(i) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87.

(b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87 and the Auditors' Report thereon.

(c) Review by Government on the working of the Institute.

(d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5735/88 for (a) to (d)].

(ii) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for not laying the Audited Accounts of the Press Council of India for the year 1986-87, within the stipulated period. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-5734/88].

Statement indicating the results of market loans floated by the Government in December, 1987 and February, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, on behalf of Shri B. K. Gadhvi I beg to lay on the Table a Statement (in English and Hindi) indicating the results of market loans floated by the Government in